



- Be Careful With Your 10-Digit Dialing; 9-1-1 Is For Emergencies Only
- Approval Given To Raleigh's First Cultural Districts City Council Extends Merger Debt Payback Period For Zebulon
- Sale Of Bond Refunding Results In Significant Savings For Raleigh
- City Council Delays Action On Proposed Amendment To North Blount Street Master Plan
- Council Agrees To Participate With NCDOT On Hillsborough Street/Western Boulevard Bridge Project
- City Of Raleigh Offers Irs Training For Small Businesses On April 5
- We Think Raleigh Is Good; Growing To Great
- Public Utilities Director To Endorse Public Water Works Campaign
- Council Approves Purchases To Allow Viewing Of Meetings On Mobile Devices
- Council Amends Begging And Panhandling Ordinance
- City Council Approves Plan For Resurfacing And Restriping Portion Of Hillsborough Street
- City Council Committee To Study Proposed Lead Mine Road Rezoning
- Parks And Recreation Department To Perform ADA Compliance Assessment
- New Appointees Made To City Boards
- Raleigh Symphony Orchestra: A Community Resource
- City Of Raleigh Offers Scholarships For Students With Disabilities
- City To Hold Meeting On Creedmor Road Sidewalk Improvements
- City To Host Public Meeting On Blue Ridge Road District Study
- Deadline Is March 28 To Apply For Raleigh Summer Youth Employment Program
- City To Observe Good Friday Holiday ;No Changes In Household Waste Collection Schedule
- Follow The City Of Raleigh On Twitter & Facebook

## BE CAREFUL WITH YOUR 10-DIGIT DIALING; 9-1-1 IS FOR EMERGENCIES ONLY Area Code's Similarity to Emergency Number Prompts Concerns

The staff of the Raleigh-Wake Emergency Communications Center is preparing for busy times. No it's not an upcoming full moon. It's much more long term and potentially disruptive.

The staff is concerned that the upcoming requirement that all local telephone calls include 10-digits will bring numerous misdials to the 9-1-1 center. The reason; it is the 9-1-1 center and as numerically similar to the existing area code – 919, as you can get.

The similarity between that area code – 919 – and the emergency number -- 911 – will inevitably result in misdials. The Emergency Communications Center staff is requesting that the public be mindful of this situation and dial carefully.

"Currently, the 9-1-1 center experiences thousands of misdialed calls every year," said Raleigh-Wake Emergency Communications Center Director Barry Furey. These calls take time to process and delay the staff from dealing with actual emergencies.

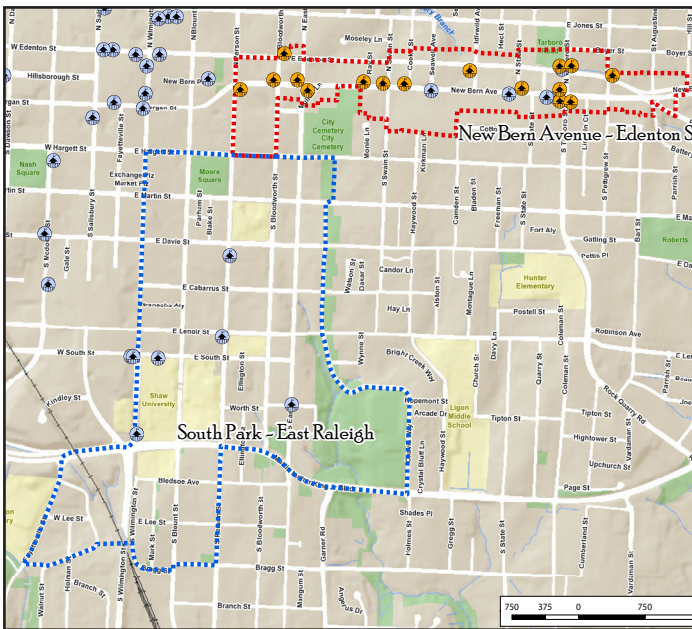
"Since the 919 area code is so close numerically to the emergency number, additional errant calls are expected," he said. "The center reminds everyone, when you're calling on the run; dial 9-1-9, not 9-1-1."

"This issue primarily impacts convention telephones and some VoIP devices," Mr. Furey said. "Wireless calls are normally not affected."

If you do call 9-1-1 by accident, please stay on the line and talk to the 9-1-1 operator to confirm that no emergencies exist. If you hang up after misdialing 9-1-1, the Emergency Communications Center staff will re-dial your number to gain assurance that you are not experiencing an emergency. This takes the staff away from their intended task of answering emergencies and dispatching the appropriate professionals.



*Emergency Communications*



Cultural Districts Map

### Who Is Affected?

Due to the population growth in the north central region of North Carolina that includes the Triangle, an additional area code will join the 919 area code, effective March 31.

An additional 984 area code will serve customers in the same geographic region as the 919 area code that covers Raleigh and the entire Triangle. This is known as an area code overlay. Beginning April 30, new telephone lines or services may be assigned numbers with the 984 area code.

The new 984 area code will be assigned only to new telephone numbers within the area code. Those with existing telephone numbers in the 919 area code will not have to change their numbers. But the way you dial must change. Effective March 31, 10-digit dialing – the appropriate area code (919 or 984) plus the seven-digit telephone number – is necessary for local calls to be completed. Local calls, that is those in the 919/984 area do not require the “1” plus 10 digits. If you dial “1” plus the 10 digits when placing a local call, you will hear a recording advising that a “1” is not needed and to hang up and redial.

Local calling areas and rates will not be affected by this change.

### What Do I Need To Do?

In addition to changing your dialing procedure to 10 digits, all services, automatic dialing equipment, or other types of equipment that are programmed with a seven-digit number must be reprogrammed to use the new dialing procedure.

Some examples are PBX, life safety systems, fax machines, Internet dial-up numbers, alarm and security systems, gates, speed dialers, call-forwarding settings, voicemail services and similar functions.

You must update all stored local telephone numbers to include the area code for services such as call forwarding, call blocking and voicemail, and for equipment, such as wireless phones. If you have a security system, you may need to contact your vendor to determine reprogramming needs for 10-digit local dialing.

### What Is the Same?

- Current telephone numbers, including current area code, will not change.
- The price of a call, coverage area, and other rates and services will not change due to the overlay.
- What was considered a local call remains a local call, regardless of the number of digits dialed.
- You still dial just three digits to reach 911, 211, 311, 411, 511, 611, 711 and 811.
- Long-distance calls require dialing “1” plus the area code plus the number.

For more information on the change to 10-digit dialing, contact the North Carolina Utilities Commission at 1-866-380-9816.

## APPROVAL GIVEN TO RALEIGH'S FIRST CULTURAL DISTRICTS

The City of Raleigh has its first two cultural districts. The City Council voted unanimously in favor of creating the South Park-East Raleigh Cultural District and the New Bern Avenue-Edenton Street Cultural District.

City staff recommended the two cultural districts be created in response to community initiatives and extensive research and planning efforts. The two cultural districts are distinct in that both reflect their community's unique geographic area, environment, history, land use, growth and cultural development.

The South Park-East Raleigh Cultural District includes parts of Downtown and east and southeast Raleigh, including the core of the historic South Park and East Raleigh neighborhoods, Moore Square, Shaw University, Chavis Park, and businesses on Wilmington Street and Hargett Street. The New Bern Avenue-Edenton Street Cultural District generally wraps around the New Bern Avenue history marker tour area and includes sections of New Bern Avenue and Edenton Street between North Person Street and Hill Street, just east of Downtown. The corridor is a gateway to the historic College Park/Idlewild neighborhoods, St. Augustine's College and Oakwood Historic District.

The districts allow the City of Raleigh to formally recognize the cultural contributions a neighborhood or area plays in shaping the City's cultural identity. They also will enhance cultural tourism in Raleigh in that they will be promoted in partnership with the Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Raleigh City Museum, local visitor centers and other venues, including various websites.

For more information contact the City's Planning Department at 919-516-2626.

## **SALE OF BOND REFUNDING RESULTS IN SIGNIFICANT SAVINGS FOR RALEIGH**

The City of Raleigh has realized gross savings of debt service costs totaling \$4.18 million or approximately \$220,104 annually from the sale of water/sewer utility refunding bonds.

On March 7, the City of Raleigh refunded \$33.4 million in Series 2004 water/sewer utility bonds. This resulted in net present value savings of \$2.9 million (approximately \$155,356 per year) or 8.84 percent of the amount of the refunded bonds. The general minimum savings amount desired by the North Carolina Local Government Commission on bond refundings is 3 percent.

The savings realized by the City of Raleigh on the bond refunding will reduce the amount of debt service that the City pays annually on its outstanding utility debt.

The lead underwriter on the bond refunding was Citigroup along with co-managers Baird and Stephens Inc.

## **CITY COUNCIL EXTENDS MERGER DEBT PAYBACK PERIOD FOR ZEBULON**

The Raleigh City Council voted 7-1 March 20 to grant a three-year extension to the Town of Zebulon to pay off debt and meet other obligations of a utility system merger agreement. The payback period was extended to July 1, 2024.

Effective on Aug. 2, 2006, the City of Raleigh and the Town of Zebulon merged their water and sewer utilities, with Raleigh taking over operation of the system. The original merger agreement called for Zebulon to pay off debt service and other upgrades by July 1, 2021. Zebulon Mayor Robert Matheny appeared before the Raleigh City Council to ask for a three-year extension in the payback deadline because the economic downturn and the 2008 drought negatively impacted revenues for the town as well as for Raleigh.

In return for getting the three-year extension on the merger debt payback period, Zebulon must reduce the merger-related debt as much as possible by agreeing to a series of future rate increases, reducing merger-related costs for capital improvements, and giving back 300,000 gallons per day of excess water capacity allocation.

For more information contact Robert Massengill at 919-996-4540.

## **CITY COUNCIL DELAYS ACTION ON PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO NORTH BLOUNT STREET MASTER PLAN**

A proposed amendment to the North Blount Street Master Plan was removed from the March 20 Raleigh City Council agenda. The City Attorney's Office informed council members that they must first hold a quasi-judicial hearing on the matter before they can take action. A quasi-judicial hearing will be scheduled later.

The North Blount Street Master Plan area is located on the east side of Wilmington Street, the south side of East Peace Street, the west side of North Person Street and the north side of East Lane Street.

The proposed amendment would increase the number of dwelling units by 250 and the commercial use square footage by 25,000 square feet. If the amendment is approved by the City Council, the residential units in the master plan would total 745 and commercial space would be 115,000 square feet. There is also 20,000 square feet for office space in the master plan. The office space square footage would not be changed by the proposed amendment.

For more information contact the City's Planning Department at 919-516-2626.

## **COUNCIL AGREES TO PARTICIPATE WITH NCDOT ON HILLSBOROUGH STREET/WESTERN BOULEVARD BRIDGE PROJECT**

The Raleigh City Council, on March 20, authorized the contribution of more than \$545,000 to the North Carolina Department of Transportation for the City's share of the replacement of the flyover bridge at Hillsborough Street and Western Boulevard.

NCDOT will demolish the existing bridge and build a new at-grade intersection. The project will also include street widening, the installation of curb and gutters, and sidewalks on Hillsborough Street, Western Boulevard, and Jones Franklin Road. The project is expected to be completed in the summer of 2014 at a cost of approximately \$2.65 million.

Originally, the construction effort involved demolishing and replacing the bridge, but in 2009, the City Council asked the NCDOT to allow for the development of a small area plan for the Jones Franklin Road area. City staff worked with NCDOT to revise the scope of the project to align with the goals of the study. The final project will involve decommissioning the overpass, and improving the walkability of the area while still maintaining adequate traffic flow. The area plan matches the construction project and was adopted by the City Council in 2011.

The changes to scope of the project increased the City's anticipated share from \$355,000 to the current total of \$545,119. The City's funds include a 50 percent match for sidewalk construction, 100 percent match for the multi-use path, additional travel lane improvements, and a 15 percent match for engineering and inspections. The City will also be responsible for maintaining the sidewalks and path once the project is complete.

For more information contact Eric Lamb at 919-516-2161.



## **CITY OF RALEIGH OFFERS IRS TRAINING FOR SMALL BUSINESSES ON APRIL 5**

The City of Raleigh's Small Disadvantaged Minority- and Women-Owned Business is sponsoring a training event on the federal Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for small business owners and entrepreneurs.

The training event, "What You Need to Know About the IRS," will be held on April 5 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the City facility at 8320-130 Litchford Road. The training is free and will cover:

- Rules and regulations for a small business to be in compliance with the IRS;
- Tax requirements;
- Recent employer-related tax credits;
- Small business products and resources; and,
- Recordkeeping, worker classification, employment taxes and estimated taxes.

Registration for the seminar is available online through April 2 by visiting the City of Raleigh's website at [www.raleighnc.gov](http://www.raleighnc.gov) and search "SDMWOB Training." The online registration takes about five minutes to complete. For more information, email [Luther.Williams@raleighnc.gov](mailto:Luther.Williams@raleighnc.gov) or [Maria.a.Torres@raleighnc.gov](mailto:Maria.a.Torres@raleighnc.gov) or call 919-996-3840.

## **WE THINK RALEIGH IS GOOD; GROWING TO GREAT America's Most Optimistic Large Metro Area; Among the Most Satisfied**

Raleigh residents posted the highest optimism about where they live among the nation's large metro areas, according to The Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index. The index found that 74.9 percent of those polled said "their city or area is getting better as a place to live." Only the smaller metro areas of Provo-Orem, Utah (76.0 percent) and Lafayette, La., (75.8 percent) posted higher results.

The community satisfaction and optimism randomly questioned 353,492 adults daily from 190 metropolitan areas from January to December 2011. The survey found that U.S. residents everywhere tend to rate their communities well.

The most optimistic large metro areas following Raleigh are Austin, Texas at 70.0 percent; Nashville, Tenn., at 68.5 percent; Oklahoma City, 67.9 percent; and Dallas-Fort Worth, 66.7 percent.

Raleigh was one of a trio of areas that also made the top 10 in overall city satisfaction. The other two areas are Provo-Orem and Des Moines, Iowa. In this survey, 93.4 percent of Raleigh-area respondents said 'they were satisfied with the city or area where they live.' Taking first place in this survey was Lancaster, Pa., with a tally of 94.7 percent.

## **PUBLIC UTILITIES DIRECTOR TO ENDORSE PUBLIC WATER WORKS! CAMPAIGN**

John Carman, the City of Raleigh's public utilities director, is signing an open letter to President Barack Obama and members of Congress calling for more federal funding of the nation's public water systems. The Raleigh City Council voted unanimously March 20 to authorize Mr. Carman to submit the letter.

Other public utilities officials throughout the nation are being asked to sign the letter as part of the Public Water Works! initiative. The campaign, sponsored by Corporate Accountability International, is designed to protect and bolster support for public water systems.

"Water is the foundation for economic development and prosperity for everyone in society," Mr. Carman said. "It doesn't make sense to neglect it."

The open letter to the president and congressional members says the nation's public water systems "face a \$23 billion annual investment gap."

"Thirty-five years ago, the federal government covered 78 percent of water system funding. Today it's a paltry 3 percent," the letter states, adding that this "erosion of support" must be reversed.

"Our public services are the cornerstones of what will continue to make America great," the letter says. "They are the most basic responsibility of government that, when properly supported, raises all boats, buoying the prosperity of all sectors of the economy while enriching the lives of people across the country. Public water systems need to be recognized for the multitude of social benefits that they provide, and they need the political commitment and financial support afforded to other essential public services."

Providing the necessary funding for the public water infrastructure over the next five years would create approximately 1.9 million jobs and generate \$265.6 billion in economic activity, the letter states.

## **COUNCIL APPROVES PURCHASES TO ALLOW VIEWING OF MEETINGS ON MOBILE DEVICES**

During its regular meeting on March 20, the Raleigh City Council unanimously approved the recommendation from its Technology and Communications Committee that the City appropriate up to \$6,600 in Fiscal Year 2012-13 for the replacement of two video encoders to enable viewing on mobile devices of the streamed feed of live coverage of meetings of City Council, and City boards, commissions and committees.

Council also approved the recommendation that City staff coordinate the scheduling of meetings of additional committees, boards and commissions in Council chambers so that the public will have access to more meetings of City governmental organizations through streaming of the meetings and carriage on RTN 11, the City's government access channel.

Meetings of Council and some other City organizations currently held in Council chambers are carried on RTN 11 and streamed on RTNSV. Meetings also are archived.

Access to RTNSV can be found at the bottom of the home page of the City of Raleigh web site; [www.raleighnc.gov](http://www.raleighnc.gov).

For more information contact the Public Affairs Department at 919-996-3100.

## **COUNCIL AMENDS BEGGING AND PANHANDLING ORDINANCE**

The Raleigh City Council, on March 20, approved an amendment to the City's Begging and Panhandling Ordinance. The amendments include three changes:

- The ordinance establishes specific standards and information necessary to obtain the permit and sets a maximum time limit of 24 hours for the Raleigh Police Department to either issue or deny the permit. The amendment specifies the standards and information required to identify the applicant in order to meaningfully enforce the ordinance;
- The ordinance establishes that the issuance of a permit does not authorize begging where otherwise prohibited by the City Code; and,
- The amendment modifies the definition of "beg" in order to make it clear that the City is addressing the act of in-person solicitation for an immediate donation of money or goods from passers-by.

For more information contact Dottie Leapley in the City Attorney's office at 919-831-6560.

## **CITY COUNCIL APPROVES PLAN FOR RESURFACING AND RESTRIPIING PORTION OF HILLSBOROUGH STREET**

The Raleigh City Council approved the restriping and pavement marking options for Hillsborough Street between Woodburn Road and Park Avenue.

This summer, the City of Raleigh is scheduled to begin resurfacing this portion of Hillsborough Street. The section of Hillsborough Street currently supports more than 17,000 vehicles traveling the street each day and has substantial bicycle and pedestrian activity. The corridor is also served by multiple bus routes provided by Capital Area Transit and by Triangle Transit.

Currently, this section of Hillsborough Street has five lanes, with two travel lanes in each direction and a continuous center turn lane. The approved option will remove one travel lane in each direction, reducing the street to one travel lane in each direction and retain the center turn lane. The removal of the travel lanes will allow the City to install bicycle lanes on both sides of the street and to introduce new on-street parking along the south side of the street.

Adjustments to the existing signalized mid-block pedestrian crosswalk adjacent to the Velvet Cloak Inn is included in the

upcoming resurfacing project. The crosswalk will be relocated westward near the YMCA to address the highest pedestrian demand in this area. The existing pedestrian signal will be decommissioned, and the new crosswalk will be monitored to determine if a new signal is needed in the future.

For more information contact Eric Lamb at 919-516-2161.

## **CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE TO STUDY PROPOSED LEAD MINE ROAD REZONING**

The Raleigh City Council's Comprehensive Planning Committee will study a proposed mixed-use project on Lead Mine Road and Charles Drive. The City Council agreed March 20 to send the rezoning plan to committee.

The proposal would rezone 9.12 acres from R-15 Conditional Use District, Office and Institutional-1 Conditional Use District to Shopping Center District Conditional Use District with a Pedestrian Business Overlay District. The mixed-use project would consist of a maximum of 533 residential units with accessory office space and up to 7,500 square feet of retail space.

The Comprehensive Planning Committee will look at the project's impact on traffic and school capacity. Committee members are scheduled to discuss the proposed rezoning during their meeting on Wednesday, March 28, at 5 p.m. in the council chamber at the Avery C. Upchurch Government Complex, 222 W. Hargett St.

For more information contact the City's Planning Department at 919-516-2626.

## **PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT TO PERFORM ADA COMPLIANCE ASSESSMENT**

The Raleigh City Council, on March 20, approved the selection of Davis Kane Architects, P.A. to perform assessments of Parks and Recreation Department facilities to determine their compliance with the new Title II regulation implementing the Americans with Disability Act.

The assessment will determine if facilities are in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act compliance that includes:

- Parking;
- Accessible route of travel;
- A accessible facility entry, and;
- All elements within a facility that affect accessibility.

The information will be used to develop plans, schedules and budgets to bring any deficiencies at the facilities into Americans with Disabilities Act compliance.

For more information contact David Watson in the Parks and Recreation Department 919-996-2986.

## NEW APPOINTEES MADE TO CITY BOARDS

During its meeting on March 20, two new appointees were named to City of Raleigh commissions.

Larissa Manon Mervin was appointed to the Human Relations Commission. Mitch Fluhrer was appointed to the Planning Commission.

Raleigh residents have the opportunity to volunteer their services to the City to serve without pay on various boards, commissions and committees. Some of these groups are established in the City Charter. Others are created by the Mayor or City Council to perform special, limited functions.

Where not specified by law, it is the City's policy to appoint citizens to serve two-year terms with a maximum of six consecutive years of service on any specific board or commission. Citizens may serve on no more than two commissions, boards or committees concurrently.

For more information, visit the City's website at [www.raleighnc.gov](http://www.raleighnc.gov) and enter "boards, commissions and committees" in the search box.

## RALEIGH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: A COMMUNITY RESOURCE

The Raleigh Symphony Orchestra has been an ambassador of music in the Capital City since it was first started 33 years ago. The orchestra reaches out to the community through concerts, partnerships, and educational programs; and by providing opportunities to aspiring musicians.

"Throughout its history, the Raleigh Symphony Orchestra has brought musicians together in the belief that music has the power to affect the lives of all people," said Irene Burke, the orchestra's executive director.

The charge of the Raleigh Symphony Orchestra, according to its official mission statement, is to:

- promote and encourage the understanding and appreciation of music through high quality performances of orchestral and chamber music;
- make programs available at a reasonable cost to an increasing and diverse audience from Raleigh and surrounding communities; and,
- feature and provide opportunities for outstanding musicians in the area.

The orchestra is succeeding in its mission and boasts that it produces more events than any other professional or community orchestra in the state of North Carolina. The orchestra is widely acclaimed for performance quality and innovating programming. In 1991, it was awarded the Raleigh Medal of Arts, the City's highest arts honor.



*Raleigh Symphony Orchestra*

The Raleigh Symphony Orchestra, or RSO as it is sometimes called, was founded in 1979. It is described as a "cultural haven for avocational musicians (who) have been professionally trained in music but currently employed in other areas," according to Ms. Burke. RSO allows these musicians an opportunity to perform in a semi-professional orchestra. Jim Waddelow is the orchestra's current conductor and musical director.

The City of Raleigh is a funding supporter of the Raleigh Symphony Orchestra, a non-profit organization. In the City's current budget, which fully funds the arts at \$4.50 per capita, \$20,000 is allocated to the orchestra. The orchestra also receives funding from other sources, such as the United Arts Council of Raleigh & Wake County.

The Raleigh Symphony Orchestra offers a variety of programs and activities, in addition to concerts:

- The annual Concerto Competition allows musicians ages 15 to 23 to perform with the orchestra;
- The orchestra partners with many local arts groups, schools and colleges on various music programs;
- The Free Spirits Ensemble, part of the orchestra's successful Chamber Series, pairs musicians from the orchestra with guest musicians and artists from the community. The goal is "to promote rarely heard new music of composers of our hemisphere"; and,
- The Raleigh Jazz Orchestra, a jazz ensemble that provides professional performance opportunities for local jazz musicians. With a commitment to jazz education, the Raleigh Jazz Orchestra is dedicated to preserving and promoting American jazz. It has performed both at public and private events.

For more information about the Raleigh Symphony Orchestra, including upcoming concerts, call 919-546-9755 or visit [www.raleighsymphony.org](http://www.raleighsymphony.org).



## **CITY OF RALEIGH OFFERS SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

The City of Raleigh Mayor's Committee for Persons with Disabilities is offering two \$1,000 scholarships to assist persons with documented disabilities pursue their education.

One scholarship is for a person with a disability who is pursuing an educational goal. This scholarship is designed to assist with tuition, books, fees, and special equipment for undergraduate course work.

The second scholarship is reserved for an individual with a disability to pursue vocational education. The funds may be used for items such as tools, work shoes or special equipment, and tuition and fees to enhance and sustain employment opportunities.

Applicants must be residents of the City of Raleigh and must be enrolled or have been accepted by an accredited undergraduate, postsecondary school, college, trade school or other institution of higher learning.

Applications are due May 31. To download an application, please visit the City of Raleigh website at [www.raleighnc.gov](http://www.raleighnc.gov) and search "mayor's committee."

Members of the Mayor's Committee for Persons with Disabilities are volunteers working to help people with disabilities participate in the economic and social life of the community. The City of Raleigh Community Services Department coordinates the work of the committee. For more information, contact Cathey Ector, City of Raleigh Community Services Department at 919 996-6100 or [cathey.ector@raleighnc.gov](mailto:cathey.ector@raleighnc.gov).

## **CITY TO HOLD MEETING ON CREEDMOR ROAD SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS**

The City of Raleigh Public Works Department will hold a public meeting on the design of sidewalk improvements on Creedmor Road from Glenwood Avenue to Strickland Road.

The meeting will be held Tuesday, March 27, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Laurel Hills Community Center, 3808 Edwards Mill Road.

The proposed project will fill in gaps in the existing sidewalk system. The City of Raleigh Public Works Department has completed a



*Summer Youth Employment*

preliminary design of the project. The plans will be available for review and City staff will be on hand to answer any question and receive comments.

For more information, contact Project Manager Tim Sudano at 919-996-3030 or [tim.sudano@raleighnc.gov](mailto:tim.sudano@raleighnc.gov). Individuals with hearing impairments needing interpreter services should provide 48 hour notice by calling 919-996-3100 or TDD 919-996-3107.

## **CITY TO HOST PUBLIC MEETING ON BLUE RIDGE ROAD DISTRICT STUDY**

The City of Raleigh will receive public feedback on the Blue Ridge Road District Study Design Options on Thursday, April 12, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Gov. James G. Martin Building, North Carolina State Fairgrounds.

The purpose of the Blue Ridge Road District Study is to develop a plan to improve vehicle and pedestrian connectivity on Blue Ridge Road in west Raleigh. The study will also seek to leverage state and local policies and investments to support growth and to guide development in the corridor to conserve natural systems and landscapes.

For more information, visit the City of Raleigh's website at [www.raleighnc.gov/urbandesign](http://www.raleighnc.gov/urbandesign) and click on Blue Ridge Road District Study. Information also may be obtained from Trisha Hasch, City of Raleigh Urban Design Center at 807-8480 or [trisha.hasch@raleighnc.gov](mailto:trisha.hasch@raleighnc.gov).

## **DEADLINE IS MARCH 28 TO APPLY FOR RALEIGH SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM**

The interview and application period for teenagers interested in summer jobs with the City of Raleigh Summer Youth Employment Program ends on Wednesday, March 28.

To be eligible, teenagers must live in the City of Raleigh and be at least 15 and no older than 18 as of May 31 of this year. Those selected will work 20 to 30 hours a week as office staff, light laborers, staff assistants, and recreation counselors. The program runs from June 11 to Aug. 10, and pay is \$7.25 an hour.

The City's Summer Youth Employment Program provides not only work experience but also life skills training and mentoring by local lawyers and law enforcement officers. Teenagers in the program attend workshops on topics such as employment readiness, communication, budgeting, decision-making and conflict resolution.

Candidates for the program must complete an application and take part in an interview. All interview and application sessions will be held from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at these places and dates:

Monday, March 26  
Lions Park Community Center  
516 Dennis Ave.

Wednesday, March 28  
Method Pioneer Building  
514 Method Road

At the interview sites, applicants will be required to provide the names and contact information for three references. To prove age and residency, they also must submit a clear photocopy of a North Carolina driver's license, learner's permit or state-issued identification card. (Copiers will not be available at the interview sites.) School identification cards, temporary driving certificates and receipts for state identification cards will not be accepted.

The City of Raleigh Community Services Department administers the Raleigh Summer Youth Program. For more information, contact Youth Services Coordinator Cathey Ector at 919-996-6100 or email [cathey.ector@raleigh.nc.gov](mailto:cathey.ector@raleigh.nc.gov). Information also is available on the City's website at [www.raleighnc.gov](http://www.raleighnc.gov), search for "Summer Youth Employment."

## **CITY TO OBSERVE GOOD FRIDAY HOLIDAY; NO CHANGES IN HOUSEHOLD WASTE COLLECTION SCHEDULE**

The City of Raleigh will observe Good Friday on April 6. While most administrative offices will be closed, same-day collection service of garbage, recycling and yard waste will follow the regular schedule on Good Friday. The City's Yard Waste Center also will be open on Good Friday.

Furthermore, Capital Area Transit will provide regular bus service on the holiday, and emergency police, fire and rescue services may be reached by calling 9-1-1 on Good Friday.

## **FOLLOW THE CITY OF RALEIGH ON TWITTER**

Looking for the most up-to-date information from the City of Raleigh? Follow your local government via Twitter!

Twitter is a free service that allows you to "follow" people or subjects via short, frequent updates. The City of Raleigh now offers Twitter users the opportunity to stay informed about the latest news and breaking events. To join in, visit [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com) and get started with a few simple steps. Once you have an active account, you can elect to "follow" any of the City's Twitter accounts.

follow us on  
**twitter**

Currently, the City maintains the following accounts:

**RaleighGov** - This feed features links to any news releases and alerts issued by the City of Raleigh;

**RaleighBPAC** - This feed features information from the City of Raleigh Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission

**RaleighParks** - This feed features any news and information related to the City of Raleigh Parks and Recreation Department;

**RalCommServices** - City of Raleigh Community Services Department

**RW911** - this feed features traffic accidents reported to the Emergency Communications Center.

**RaleighGoGreen** - this feed features news and information from the City of Raleigh Solid Waste Services Department Recycling program.

To follow any of these, simply choose "Find People" from your Twitter home page and type in the account name you are interested in and then click "follow." It's that easy.

## **CITY OF RALEIGH ON FACEBOOK**

City of Raleigh - The main City of Raleigh Facebook page keeps you informed about events, holidays and other news items.

**City of Raleigh Planning and Development** - The Raleigh Planning and Development page provides guidance for the growth, preservation and development of the City of Raleigh in order to maintain a community of lasting value.

**Community Services Department** - The Community Services Department Facebook page posts a variety of community and neighborhood news, stories, awards, classes and Citizen Advisory Council information.

**Emergency Communications** - The Raleigh-Wake County 911 Facebook page posts information on job openings, public engagements and other 911 related happenings. Like Raleigh Wake County 911 on Facebook

**Raleigh Police Department** - The Raleigh Police Department Facebook page focuses on public safety. Posts concerning crime alerts, missing people, requests for citizen assistance and more.

## **TRAFFIC ALERTS**

FOR MORE CITY OF RALEIGH NEWS AND UPDATES ON ROAD CLOSURES, PARADES AND ROAD RACES, VISIT THE CITY'S WEBSITE AT [WWW.RALEIGHNC.GOV](http://WWW.RALEIGHNC.GOV)

### **ROAD RACES**

#### **March 24**

Traffic will be affected from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. near Millbrook Avenue. The participants will gather on the property of Millbrook Middle School. Runners will enter onto Dixie Forest and proceed east, left onto Litchford, left onto Harps Mill, left onto Haymarket Lane right onto Rainwater, left onto Gresham's Lake, right onto Litchford,



right onto Dixie Forest back to the start/finish. The runners in the 5K will turn around on Litchford just north of Nicholas Road and return to the start/finish. The following roads will be closed:

- Litchford Road northbound from Dixie Forest to Harps Mill from 8 a.m. until 8:30 a.m.;
- Litchford Road southbound from Harps Mill to Dixie Forest from 8 a.m. until 9:15 a.m.
- Harps Mill from Haymarket to Litchford Road from 8 a.m. until 9 a.m.; and,
- Haymarket from Harps Mill to Rainwater from 8 a.m. until 9 a.m.

### March 25

Traffic will be affected for a road race. The following roads will be closed from 3 p.m. until 4 p.m.:

- Noble Road from McNeil to Lowden;
- Oxford Road from Greenway to Anderson; and,
- Anderson from Oxford to Six Forks Road.

Traffic will also be affected downtown by a road race. The following roads will be closed from 2 p.m. until 2:30 p.m.:

- Dawson Street from Edenton Street to Morgan Street;
- McDowell Street from Morgan Street to Edenton Street;
- Morgan Street from Salisbury Street to Wilmington Street;
- Wilmington Street from Morgan Street to Edenton Street;
- Edenton Street from Wilmington Street to Salisbury Street; and,
- Hillsborough Street from Dawson Street to Salisbury Street.

Also, Hillsborough Street will be closed from Dawson Street to Pullen Avenue from 2 p.m. until 3 p.m.

### April 1

Traffic will be affected near the RBC Center for a road race.

### April 21

Traffic will be affected downtown from 7 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. for a road race.

Traffic will also be affected for a road race near Quail Corners Shopping Center from 2 p.m. until 3:30 p.m.

## STREET CLOSINGS

### March 24

The 100 block of Fayetteville Street between Morgan and Hargett streets will be closed from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m.

### March 25

The 400 block of Fayetteville Street will be closed from Davie Street to the south end of City Plaza from 6 a.m. until 4 a.m. on March 26.

### April 6

The 00 block of Hargett Street between Fayetteville Street and Wilmington Street will be closed from 6 p.m. until 1 a.m.

### April 13

The 200 and 300 blocks of E. Martin Street will be closed from 9 a.m. on April 13 until 5 p.m. on April 15. The 200 block of S. Person Street will be closed from 2 p.m. on April 13 until 5 p.m. on April 15. The 300 block of S. Person Street will be closed from 12 p.m. on April 13 until 5 p.m. on April 15.

### April 20

The 00 and 100 blocks of W. Jones Street and the 100 and 200 blocks of N. Salisbury Street will be closed from 5 p.m. on April 20 until 5 p.m. on April 21.

### April 21

Traffic will be affected by a street closure from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. The 1100 block of the South Saunders Street service road between Grissom Street and Hamel Street will be closed.

Traffic will be affected by a street closure from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. The 900 block of S. Bloodworth Street will be closed between Bledsoe Avenue and Lee Street

Also, the 200 block of E. Hargett Street will be closed from 10 a.m. until 12 p.m.

## PARADES

**March 31** Traffic will be impacted on March 31 from 9:30 am until 12:30 for a fundraising walk. The start/finish and assembly area will be on the property of the RBC Center. The walk begins at 9:30 a.m. and participants will begin on RBC Center property. They will exit the property onto Westchase Road, turn right onto Blue Ridge Road, right onto Trinity Road, and proceed on Trinity back to the RBC property. Walkers will utilize only one lane on each of the roadways which will allow traffic to flow in all directions.

**April 21** Traffic will be affected from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. near Moore Square for a fundraising walk. The group will enter onto Hargett Street and travel west, turn right on Fayetteville Street, turn right on Morgan Street, merge on New Bern Avenue, right on Swain Street, right on Hargett Street and return to Moore Square.

\* \* \* \*

For information on downtown events visit the Downtown Raleigh Alliance website at [www.godowntownraleigh.com](http://www.godowntownraleigh.com) and the Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau at [www.visitraleigh.com](http://www.visitraleigh.com).

NewsCOR is also available electronically. Please contact the City of Raleigh Public Affairs Department at 919-996-3100. If you would prefer to receive NewsCOR by email.

